



CALPEEK

CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK

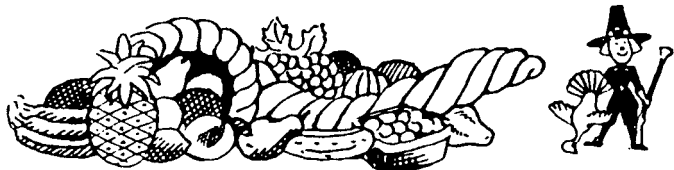
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A THANKSGIVING VACATION BREAK FOR CALPEEK

We'll be off next week for Thanksgiving, but resume work on Dec. 1st for **Calpeek's** final issue of the year, which will be dated Dec. 8th. Issue #44 will include our *Who's Hot & Who's Not* column. Here's wishing all **Calpeek** readers a happy Thanksgiving holiday...



to hold the seat for the Democrats because it looks as though the GOP primary could get rather *bloody*...

...And Firestone's problems don't end with Bordonaro or Stoker. The Nat'l Rifle Assn. and their Santa Barbara chapter (w/10,000 members) will wade into the primary, with the intent to defeat Firestone. Larry Rankin, president of the Santa Barbara NRA Members Council, told **Calpeek**: "Firestone can't be trusted. His word means nothing." Strong, fighting words...

...According to **Calpeek** sources, in 1994 the local NRA chapter endorsed Firestone when he first ran for the 35th AD, based upon his pledge that he would not vote of any new gun control laws. In the 1997-98 session, however, Firestone voted for AB 488 to ban so-called *Saturday Night Special* handguns. After that initial vote, the NRA then had a meeting with Firestone, where sources say he again promised not to vote for a ban on handguns. But Firestone voted for SB 500, another *Saturday Night Special* handgun bill --- and that's why the NRA has targeted him for defeat...

22ND CD UPDATE: GUNNERS AIM AT FIRESTONE.

Editor's note: The battle to succeed the late Walter Capps (D-Santa Barbara) is now moving with greater speed. The special election will be held Jan. 13th, with a likely runoff Mar. 10th. Here is **Calpeek's** update...

...As **Calpeek** predicted last week, the GOP field of serious contenders is down by one, with Dr. Rick Bravo, the former chair of the San Luis Obispo Co. GOP, dropping out and endorsing Assemblyman Tom Bordonaro. Both are from SLO Co. and are hardline conservatives...

...Vying for GOP votes from the Santa Barbara portion of the 22nd CD are Assemblyman Brooks Firestone and former Santa Barbara Co. Sup. Mike Stoker. Sources thought Stoker would bow out, but that's not the case. Stoker's consultants, Gilliard, Blanning & Associates, have resigned (at the request of the NRCC) and urged Stoker to drop out. Stoker is going to have a tough time raising money, but he *remains a threat* to Firestone's candidacy as long as he stays in the race. On the **Demo** side, Capps' widow, Lois, has declared her candidacy. And some sources think she's a favorite

...FYI: Sources think the turnout on Jan. 13th will be a rather low 25-30%, meaning that every vote counts. If Stoker gets even 1,000 to 1,500 votes, that could make a huge difference in a tight race. Is there a way to get Stoker out and thus help Firestone? Perhaps. Gov. Pete Wilson appointed Stoker as chair of the ALRB and so he could apply pressure. Stay tuned...

CALPEEK'S LEGAL FILE: CA OPEN PRIMARY LAW IS UPHELD. CALIF. DEMOS & GOP TO APPEAL RULING.

Editor's note: U.S. Judge David Levi on Nov. 17th ruled that Calif.'s **open primary law** (also called a blanket primary) is constitutional. Calif. voters approved Prop. 198 in the March '96 primary by a **59%** vs. **41%** margin. The law allows voters to cross party

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lines in the primary to vote for whomever they want. Here's our brief update & analysis...

...Within hours of the decision, both the Calif. Demo Party and the Calif. Republican Party announced they would **appeal** Judge Levi's ruling...

...One of the unintended consequences of 198 is that Calif. Democrats and Republicans **won't** be able to vote directly for presidential candidates in 2000. In other words, the presidential primary is dead for now, thanks to 198, because rules for both parties prohibit non party members from casting votes in a presidential primary. The two parties could go to a *closed primary system*, such as a convention or caucus...

...If the two major Calif. political parties who brought this legal challenge are looking for someone to blame, they should look in a mirror. Former CDP Chair Bill Press and former CRP Chair John Herrington both knew Prop. 198 would qualify, yet did next to nothing to mount a credible campaign to defeat 198...

...About the only folks who are smiling are moderate GOPers, key sponsors of 198. In a Statewide primary, moderates are at a disadvantage in a GOP primary because they are *often a minority* within their own party. However, 198 may level the field - or so the moderates think, but no one really knows for sure...

...With the law upheld, it means a *more expensive primary* for all candidates because they will have to reach out to a larger voter universe. Combine that with the fundraising restrictions of Prop. 208 and that spells real trouble for non-incumbent candidates. Is there a group who is pleased by this ruling? The established **slate card vendors** should be in *7th heaven* because slates will now become the most cost effective method to reach cross-over voters and independents. Stay tuned...

L.A. CO. SUP. YAROSLAVSKY TO ADDRESS FORUM.
L.A. Co. Sup. Zev Yaroslavsky will address the L.A. Current Affairs Forum, 11:30 a.m. reception, 12 noon luncheon, Dec. 8, Hyatt Regency Hotel, L.A. Yaroslavsky will discuss the MTA. For info & RSVPs, ☎ Emma Schafer (213)627-7427...

46th AD SPECIAL: GIL CEDILLO DEFEATS CASTRO.

Editor's note: Here's our brief report and analysis on the Nov. 18 special election to replace Louis Caldera (D) in the 46th AD. **Calpeek** sources were dead on in predicting a 20% turnout (13,072). Very low, but that was expected...

...Former SEIU #660 leader Gil Cedillo (D) will be the new assemblyman representing the 46th AD. Although he'll have to wage a runoff campaign Jan. 13th with GOP candidate Andrew Kim, winning the primary in this very heavy Demo district is tantamount to winning outright. Cedillo defeated his two chief Demo rivals, LAUSD Board member Vickie Castro and attorney Ricardo Torres. Cedillo got 44.28% vs. Castro at 21.87% & Torres at 12.71%. Kim got 9.88% and finished 4th...

...Thanks to Prop. 208, Cedillo lead consultants Parke Skelton & Steve Gray-Barkan have to share some campaign credit with a zillion other IE campaign consultants (Gale Kaufman, Richie Ross, Leo Briones, Susan Burnside, Greg Sellers/Roger Lee - to name a few)...

...When this special started, Castro, with better name ID, was the favorite. But it was the independent expenditure committees, many being run on behalf of **organized labor**, which proved very helpful to Cedillo. And make no mistake, from now on it will be the IE committees which will be the most influential in Calif. legislative races --- thanks to 208. Labor was the big winner in this special, along with L.A. Mayor Richard Riordan and Assembly Majority Leader Antonio Villaraigosa. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN '98: ODDS & ENDS FROM AROUND CALIF.

Editor's note: Here are some items worth noting about various Statewide contests taking place in 1998...

☒ **Governor's Race** - Demo businessman Al Checchi is off to the races, hitting the tv airwaves with a \$3.5 million buy between now and the end of the year. His ad campaign started Nov. 17th, as **Calpeek** sources had predicted several weeks ago. We've seen the :60 sec. bio spot and it's just *so so* - not a show stopper...

...Checchi presented his 10-point education plan at the Commonwealth Club on Nov. 18th, but on the day he presented it, he was hit with a rather negative story by

S.F. Chronicle political writers Robert Gunnison and Carla Marinucci. Part of Checchi's 10-point program calls for universal pre-school, as envisioned by State Schools Chief Delaine Eastin. But back in Minnesota, home base for Checchi's *Northwest Airlines*, there was a 1995 bill to end a property tax exemption for all airlines, with the money to go for day-long kindergarten for poor kids. According to the *Chron's* story, airline lobbying killed the bill because they felt they were being "singled out as a source of the revenue." The *Chron's* headline and lead is actually worse than the rest of the story, but it's not a very positive article...

☒ **U.S. Senate** - While San Diego businessman Darrell Issa(R) has slammed Matt Fong for ducking the question last week asked of him by **Calpeek** about the confirmation of Bill Lann Lee to be the Asst. U.S. AG/Civil Rights Division, this week a Fong spokesman says the senate candidate *leans against* confirmation...

☒ **Secretary of State's Race** - Demo Michela Alioto has begun to assemble her campaign team for 1998. The media/tv consultant will be DC-based Squier, Knapp Ochs Communications; polling will be handled by Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin in S.F. FYI: At the CA Demo Party's recent Executive Board meeting in Oakland, many members were wearing Alioto for SOS buttons --- sending a message to Tony Miller that he's *persona non grata*. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN '98: U.S. HOUSE CONTESTS IN CALIF. FAZIO WON'T SEEK REELECTION TO THE 3RD CD.

Editor's note: Lots of news to report in our continuing series of updates & reports about U.S. House races in Calif. next year...

☒ **3rd CD** - A shock of sorts, as U.S. Rep. Vic Fazio(D-Sacto) has announced his retirement. Fazio has been a fixture in Congress for the past 20 years, but ever since the 1992 reapportionment, he's been in a much more GOP-leaning district. Registration is 45% Demo vs. 40% GOP --- but anytime Republican registration is 40% or better, that's considered good turf for GOP candidates. In both '94 and '96, Fazio defeated Tim LeFever - but had to spend millions to hold the 3rd CD and was targeted by the GOP with highly publicized *Kick Vic Out* campaigns both times. Had he decided to seek reelection in '98, Fazio would have

been targeted again. A recent NRCC poll showed Fazio's reelect numbers rather *low*, but Demos don't buy that...

...Now that Fazio, who was the third ranking Demo in the House, has bowed out for '98, insiders are focused on the GOP. The frontrunner is Assemblywoman Barbara Alby, but she'll have competition from Sacto businessman Charles E. Schaupp. State Sen. Maurice Johannessen's name surfaced, but he says he won't run. On the Demo side, no replacement candidates have surfaced, as yet...

...While the loss of Fazio is certainly a setback for the House Demos, there is a positive side: the price tag of Fazio holding the 3rd CD against Alby would have been very high, so resources can now be shifted to State Sen. Mike Thompson(D-Napa) who will try to unseat GOP U.S. Rep. Frank Riggs in the 1st CD. Riggs is in a heavy Demo registration CD -- thus he's on borrowed time too...

☒ **9th CD** - Although **Calpeek** had a jump on the retirement news of U.S. Rep. Ron Dellums(D-Oakland) in last week's edition, we weren't sure if he'd leave office early. News reports say he'll resign on Feb. 6 of next year. This probably means a special election, but we'll have to wait. Frontrunner to replace Dellums: State Sen. Barbara Lee(D-Oakland)...

☒ **24th CD** - This is the L.A./Ventura Co. CD represented by Demo freshman Brad Sherman of Sherman Oaks. Once viewed as a very iffy candidate in this *swing* district, Sherman crushed his '96 GOP opponent, Rich Sybert, by 15,000 votes. Republicans seem to be rallying around businessman Randy Hoffman, a guy with very *deep pockets*. Hoffman has picked up the endorsements of Ventura Co. DA Mike Bradbury and Ventura Co. Sheriff Larry Carpenter. In addition, former State Sen. Ed Davis (R) has endorsed Hoffman. Here's how Sherman and Hoffman stack up on fund-raising:

	<u>Contributions</u>	<u>COH</u>
Sherman(D-Inc.)	\$103,118	\$ 53,034*
Hoffman(R)	\$278,700	\$236,140**

* Sherman has a debt of \$682,541, while **Hoffman has a debt of \$286,748...

CALPEEK'S CALENDAR OF POLITICAL EVENTS

Dec. 1	CA Supreme Court Chief Justice Ronald George addresses TownHall, L.A.
Dec. 1	Re-trial of Rhonda Carmony-Rohrabacher in Orange Co.
Dec. 3-5	Sessions on Tourism & Future of Western Legislatures. Sponsored by Council of State Govts. - West. Kohala Coast, Hawaii.
Dec. 5-9	Council of State Govts. annual meeting, Honolulu.
Dec. 3-6	Nat'l League of Cities meeting, Philadelphia.
Jan. 5	CA Legislature reconvenes.
Jan. 13	46th AD runoff election.
Jan. 14	U.S. Rep. Jay Kim(R-Diamond Bar) to be sentenced for accepting illegal contributions.
Jan. 26-28	Amer. Assn. of Political Consultants Winter Conf., Fairmont Hotel, S.F.

CALPEEK'S INFOBAHN: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.

Editor's note: Here are a few political items worth noting...

■ **NO on Unz/Bilingual** - There's now an opposition committee to battle the initiative which would kill off the current system of bilingual education in Calif. The group goes by the name of Citizens for an Educated America: No on Unz. The "Unz" is Ron Unz, leader of English for the Children, who are sponsoring the initiative. Early members of the anti-Unz coalition include CFT, CTA, Assn. of Mexican American Educators, SEIU, the Assn. of Calif. School Administrators; and the Calif. Assn. for Bilingual Educators. Sacto consultant Richie Ross will handle strategy & media; Kelly Hayes-Raitt has been hired to handle daily management; and David Gould is the treasurer. The temporary ☎(310)392-8715...

■ **New CA Voter Registration Data** - The latest voter registration numbers (Sept. '97) released by the CA Sec. of State's office shows a drop of more than 4% in overall registration because of the new Residency Confirmation Mailing program, aimed at removing "dead-wood" from the active voter roles. About 74% of CA's eligible voters are now registered (14,694,471). Demo registration is 46.88%; the GOP is at 36.40% and Decline to State at 11.67%. The third largest political party in Calif. is AIP with 275,893, followed by the Reform Party at 101,513. Green Party has 89,111 members, while the Libertarian Party accounts has registration of 73,354. The Natural Law Party has 71,042 members, while P&F has 70,152 members...

NEW JOBS, ADDRESSES AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

- A sad note: Former U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Cecil F. Poole, the first black federal judge in No. Calif., died Nov. 12. He was 83. R.I.P...
- Former LAPD Commissioner Art Mattox has been appointed to the L.A. City Ethics Commission. He was appointed by Councilman Joel Wachs...
- Former Santa Clara Co. Sup. Ron Gonzales has hired S.F.-based Staton, Hughes & Shafer as the consultants for his '98 campaign for mayor of San Jose...
- Steven W. Lew, vp of Universal Studios, has been elected chairman of the Valley Industry & Commerce Assn.(VICA). Lew's term begins Jan. 1st...
- Attorney and former Demo Assembly candidate Valerie Salkin is now an L.A. Co. Deputy D.A...

SAN DIEGO LINCOLN CLUB'S INSTALLATION EVENT.

CA Gov. Pete Wilson will be the special guest at the 14th annual installation dinner for the San Diego chpt. of the Calif. Lincoln Club. 6 p.m. reception, 7 p.m. dinner, Dec. 11, Hyatt Regency/San Diego. Black tie. For info & RSVPs ☎(619)625-4440...

CALPEEK'S MARKETPLACE NETWORK

● **Positions available:** Senior Account Executive - requires min. 5 years exp. Manage major corporate accounts for public affairs and public relations. Prefer advocacy/grassroots exp. in environmental, transportation and/or land-use issues. Media Director - requires min. 5 years exp. P.R. agency or media exp. a must. Act as primary media contact/strategist for public affairs and public relations accounts. Both positions require strong writing, creative, counseling skills. Fax resume to Hal Dash @ Cerrell Associates, (213)466-8653...

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